

EXHIBIT A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Holland, et al.

Serial No.: 08/957,431

Filed: October 24, 1997

Ex.: 1314

For: **LAMINATED FABRIC**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

DECLARATION OF SHIRLEY DAVIS

I, Shirley Davis, declare as follows:

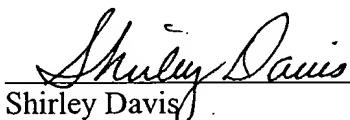
1. I am a docketing clerk at the intellectual property law firm of Rhodes, Coats & Bennett, L.L.P., in Greensboro, North Carolina. I was employed in this capacity during all of the relevant times pertaining to this matter..
2. My responsibilities include opening incoming mail from the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO"), matching up incoming mail with the appropriate file, and otherwise preparing the file for action by the appropriate attorney.
3. In conjunction with the duties outlined in paragraph 2, I maintain an Incoming Mail List to document the date of receipt in the law office of each type of item received from the PTO.
4. I have reviewed the Incoming Mail List from February 20, 1998 to March 2, 1998. There is no entry during that time span indicating that a Notice to File Missing Parts was received in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/957,431 for LAMINATED FABRIC.
5. As evidenced by the Incoming Mail List dated 2/26/98, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, the Filing Receipt for the instant application was received from the PTO.

6. It is the normal business practice of this office to record the receipt of each item of mail received from the PTO.

7. On information and belief, if there is no entry in the Incoming Mail List that a Notice to File Missing Parts was received in a particular manner, then no such Notice was received in this office.

8. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirley Davis

Date: 2-8-99